

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0082

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 2455

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, PINT, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET PROTEST OF STUDENT "SIT-IN"

REF: STATE 038948, MOSCOW 2414, MOSCOW 2439

1. DCM WAS CALLED IN TO SEE KOMPLEKTOV, DEPUTY CHIEF, USA DIVISION OF MFA, AT 1945 FEBRUARY 18. KOMPLEKTOV DELIVERED FOLLOWING ORAL STATEMENT: THE MINISTRY CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY TO DIRECT THE ATTENTION OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY TO THE FOLLOWING. ON FEBRUARY 18 A HOOLIGAN PRANK (VYKHODKA) TOOK PLACE AT THE INSTIGATION OF A GROUP OF AMERICAN CITIZENS - WEINSTEIN, PIERCE, YOUNG, GREEN, OLENBERG, GROV, AND HESS WHO ARE IN THE USSR AS TOURISTS. HAVING APPEARED AT THE BUILDING OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE RSFSR, THESE INDIVIDUALS CONDUCTED THEMSELVES IN A PROVOCATIVE MANNER AND DURING THE ENTIRE DAY INTERFERED WITH THE WORK OF AN OFFICIAL SOVIET INSTITUTION. AT THAT TIME, THEY DIRECTLY ANNOUNCED THEY WERE ACTING AT THE DIRECTION OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST ORGANIZATION "BETAR."

CALLING THE ATTENTION OF THE EMBASSY TO THE INADMISSIBILITY OF SUCH BEHAVIOR BY AMERICAN CITIZENS, WHICH HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH TOURISM AND VIOLATES THE GENERALLY ACCEPTED RULES AND NORMS OF CONDUCT, THE MINISTRY EXPECTS THE EMBASSY WILL TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES IN ORDER TO PREVENT THIS TYPE OF OCCURRENCE.

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2. DCM COMMENTED THAT EMBASSY OF COURSE HAD NO CONTROL OVER BEHAVIOR

OF PRIVATE U.S. CITIZENS, AND THAT INDEED CONSULAR OFFICER HAD ADVISED

GROUP TO LEAVE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AS SOON AS MATTER HAD COME TO HIS ATTENTION.

3. STUDENTS TELEPHONED EMBASSY 1100 FEBRUARY 19 MOSCOW TIME TO SAY THAT THEY HAVE DECIDED TO LEAVE USSR SAME DAY ON JAL FLIGHT 443 SCHEDULED DEPART MOSCOW 1620 LOCAL TIME AND ARRIVE LONDON 1710 LOCAL TIME. THEY TOLD CONSOFF THAT THEY WILL ATTEMPT TO VISIT MVD PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.
STOESSEL

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